

the physical condition and needed investments for improvement across 16 major infrastructure categories. The most recent report card was issued in 2017. Among the national rankings, transit systems were rated a D— and roads were rated a D.

Dams: D.  
Drinking water: D.  
Inland waterways: D.  
Levees: D.

We need to move this process forward. I urge my colleagues to support this critically important bill, so that our country can begin making the investments it desperately needs.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 due to illness. I would have voted aye on H.R. 22—Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2021, which was considered on the House floor that day.

JEFF DORSCHNER

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeff Dorschner of the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Colorado, for his more than 20 years of service to the state and people of Colorado.

Throughout Jeff's time with the U.S. Attorney General's office, he has had many different responsibilities and roles—from Spokesman and Public Affairs Specialist to a Member of the Executive Management Team. He is best known and will be remembered for his hard work and dedication to the office and the people it serves.

During his tenure, Jeff handled media relations for the office on issues large or small, and no matter what time or day of the week. This required Jeff to know about all office activities, stay up to date with major investigations and law enforcement events, and be well versed in all offices policies and programs. He served as a spokesperson on many diverse subjects, ranging from criminal law to civil law and financial litigation, and served as a credible voice on behalf of the U.S. Attorney and Assistant U.S. Attorneys. He developed long-standing, close relationships with members of the news media, referred to by many reporters upon his retirement as one of the state's "top-tier" Public Information Officers (PIO), always helpful, trustworthy and responsive.

In his role in public affairs and as part of the Executive Management team, Jeff provided sound advice and counsel to the U.S. Attorney as well as responded to citizen inquiries. On occasion, Jeff would also handle inquiries from Members of Congress or state or local elected officials. Jeff was on duty on 9/11/2001 and was subsequently assigned as the Chief Information Officer for the U.S. Attorney's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Committee (ATAC).

During his tenure with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Jeff coordinated more than ten different visits by other U.S. Attorneys General as well as visits by the Deputy Attorneys General of the United States. He served four Presidents (Clinton, Bush, Obama and Trump) along with many presidential appointed and acting U.S. Attorneys (Tom Strickland, Richard "Dick" Spriggs, John Suthers, William "Bill" Leone, Troy Eid, David Gaouette, John Walsh, Bob Troyer and Jason Dunn).

I want to extend my deepest appreciation for Jeff's long career in public service and countless contributions to our community. I wish him the best in retirement and future endeavors.

#### REMEMBERING CHRISTINE TERLESKY

### HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Christine Terlesky, a beloved mother, wife, teacher, coach, daughter, sister and friend who passed away after a long battle with ALS.

While Christine played many roles, I first came to know her as an advocate. Soon after being diagnosed, she came to Capitol Hill as a passionate voice for families living with ALS to champion additional funding, research, and legislation that would benefit those afflicted with this debilitating disease.

That's just who Christine was; a person who immediately was spurred into action on behalf of others despite being confronted with a disease that impacted all aspects of her and her family's lives.

Forever the teacher, she continued to tell her story to teach others about the realities of ALS. Forever the Coach, she used that platform to fight for ALS funding and affordable, universal healthcare for all.

I saw firsthand how Christine passionately gave her time and energy—even as it was in increasingly limited supply—to what she believed in. And for Christine, that meant community. It meant family. It meant Youngstown. We had that in common.

I have fond memories of a dinner we had in D.C. with her sisters, swapping stories of our days as Youngstown State University athletes, our big Italian families, our love of sports, and her 19 years teaching history and government and coaching at Boardman High School. The evening went on for hours.

That dinner was also when I learned of Christine's deep admiration for Hillary Clinton. In 2016, during one of Secretary Clinton's campaign stops in Youngstown, I was able to connect Christine to Secretary Clinton. I will never forget the joy in Christine's face when she first met the Secretary. And in that moment, Christine did what she always did, put others first. She used her short time with the Secretary to advocate for those suffering with ALS.

In her final months, Christine continued to use her online presence to educate and advocate. She never lost her faith in government, advocacy, and enacting policies to improve the lives of Americans.

Christine Terlesky is survived by her parents, Ronald and Judy Moschella of

Boardman; her husband, Brian Terlesky; their three children, Brian (21), Tyler (16) and Emma (12); two younger sisters, Nadine (Nick) Colla and Jolene (Donald) Ross; her in-laws, Mary Lou and Ted Terlesky and nieces and nephews, Jenna and Jimmy Vivo, Lia and Nicholas Colla and Tessa, Gianna and Lena Ross.

Christine was one of the most caring, brave, and passionate people I have ever met. She gave her life to helping others and never backed down from a fight. I'm honored to have known her.

She will be sorely missed, but her community—our community—will continue to work together to carry out her mission. My prayers are with her family.

#### CONGRATULATING SUMMIT COUNTY COMMISSIONER THOMAS DAVIDSON ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I seek to highlight the career of an exemplary public servant from Colorado's Second Congressional District. For fourteen years, Summit County Commissioner Thomas Davidson tirelessly devoted himself to the betterment of his community.

Thomas has never strayed during his public service from his commitment to health, safety, and equity. As the Chairman of the Combined Housing Authority, he advocated for affordable housing for all. He spent 13 years on the board of Early Childhood Options which started the County's Head Start program—providing critical resources to low-income families in this mountain county. In 2013, he was appointed by the Governor of Colorado to the State's Early Childhood Leadership Commission, and in 2015, was called on by the Governor once more to serve on the State Board of Human Services—a testament to his leadership and tenacity.

As Summit County's first openly gay County Commissioner and a vocal advocate for LGBTQ rights, Commissioner Davidson has broken barriers for the next generations and set an excellent example for his community. I am so proud to represent such a dedicated public servant and member of his community.

I am grateful for all the work Commissioner Davidson has done as a Summit County Commissioner and am glad that he will continue his involvement in his community even after his time as a County Commissioner is over. I wish him a restful and well-deserved retirement from public service.

#### CONGRATULATING J. GARY MUDD, VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AT THE AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND, ON HIS RETIREMENT

### HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate J. Gary Mudd, Vice

President of Government and Community Affairs at the American Printing House for the Blind (APH), on his retirement. For more than 34 years, Gary has been a tireless advocate for thousands of students and adults who are blind or visually impaired.

Gary has been the face of APH on Capitol Hill for decades. His approach to educating Members of Congress and their staff was to emphasize the importance of increased funding for the blind and visually impaired; demonstrating the many technologies developed by APH; and making clear how that investment helps expand educational opportunities for those without sight. Gary's determination, both personally and professionally, proved to all who know him that a blind man can achieve great success. Gary is a proud graduate of the University of Louisville where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Sociology.

Gary was known to many on Capitol Hill, and his guide dogs were often more recognizable than their owner. When Gary called for an appointment, the first question was: "Is the dog coming?" Heathcliff was his first companion. When he passed away, Denver filled the coveted position. Not that we weren't pleased to see Gary, but his companions were always a highlight of the day. Gary was a valuable resource for members of the Capitol Hill community and was always available to answer any questions about educating the blind and visually impaired.

Gary's accomplishments are many: he played a key leadership role on the APH executive board; helped establish the National Prison Braille Network—a partnership with the APH and prisons across the United States to learn braille to transcribe textbooks for blind students; and played an integral role at the APH Museum, the InSights Arts Competition, and the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Center resources services team. Gary was not only instrumental in ensuring that the APH facility was an accessible workplace for all, but also led the team to include accessibility for the blind for the Louisville Metro region to expand accessibility and technology for transit, buildings, and streets, and he worked tirelessly to help incorporate changes into city planning documents for our city.

As Helen Keller said, "The only thing worse than being blind is having sight but no vision."

Gary's work at the APH demonstrated more than vision. He inspired others to join in his quest to provide the best for blind students, adults, and the visually impaired all over this great nation.

I wish Gary the very best in retirement and send my good wishes to him, his wife Susan, daughters Kelly and Rachel, and grandchildren Cate, Carter, Davis, and Kase.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE MR.  
ANTONIO DIAS CHAVES

**HON. LORI TRAHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions and legacy of Mr. Antonio Dias Chaves, a proud Portuguese immigrant who made Hudson, Massachusetts his home and dedicated his life and career to

public service and the prosperity of the Portuguese community in Massachusetts. He tragically passed away due to COVID-19 on December 31, 2020.

From 1967 when Antonio immigrated to the United States from the Azores until his death, he worked tirelessly to make his country and community a better place. Shortly after his arrival, he enlisted in the Army and proudly served his country during the Vietnam War. His public service did not end there. Rather, it was just the beginning. In 1978, Antonio became the first Portuguese-American elected to the Hudson Board of Selectmen and just the second elected Portuguese-American in all of Massachusetts. His passion for politics blossomed and he developed friendships with many political leaders throughout the Commonwealth and beyond—all to give back to his country, support his community, and most importantly, help others.

Antonio's impact on the Portuguese diaspora in Massachusetts cannot be understated nor can his commitment to helping other immigrants achieve the American Dream. Antonio helped thousands of people make a life for themselves and their families in America as both an immigration consultant and a public servant with the Massachusetts Office of Refugees and Immigrants. As a former congressional staffer and member of Congress, I had the opportunity see first-hand Antonio's determined advocacy for helping others, his devotion to his community, his pride in his heritage, and of course, his passion for the Hudson Portuguese Club. I will miss seeing him among families and friends during dinners or feasts at the Club, where he could usually be found as the resident Master of Ceremonies, hosting in the restaurant, cheering on his favorite team (Sporting Clube de Portugal), having a toast with friends, or tending to duties as the president of the general assembly.

For his contributions and accomplishments, he was awarded one of the highest civilian honors bestowed by the Portuguese Government, the Order of Merit and the title of "Comendador". Throughout his life, Antonio would receive numerous recognitions from State and local government and other distinguished organizations for his work in the community through the Hudson Portuguese Club and Portugal 73, one of the oldest continually running Portuguese radio shows in the world. Recently, Antonio authored and published "Os Meus Imperios", a memoir of establishing the Holy Ghost Festival or "Imperio" in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Antonio will be remembered for his love for his family, our great nation, unparalleled friendship, passion for helping others, and pride in his Portuguese heritage. His contributions to our community and grateful nation will never be forgotten. My heart goes out to Zelia, Derek, and the entire Chaves family during this difficult time. Antonio's legacy will live on through his loving family and all of us who had the honor of calling him a friend.

HONORING AUGUSTUS BENTON  
"BEN" CHAFIN, JR.

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Virginia state Senator Augustus Ben-

ton "Ben" Chafin, Jr. of Lebanon, Virginia, who died on January 1, 2021 at the age of 60. Ben was a dedicated and effective state legislator and a kind and decent man.

Ben was a true son of Southwest Virginia. He was born on May 18, 1960 in Abingdon, Virginia. He earned a bachelor's degree from East Tennessee State University and a law degree from the University of Richmond. Ben practiced law in Lebanon as a principal of the Chafin Law Firm. He also served as a board member of the First Bank and Trust, which his father had helped to found, and ran a beef cattle farm.

In 2013, Ben won a seat in the Virginia House of Delegates. A year later, he won a special election to represent the 38th District in the Virginia Senate. The 38th District includes all of the Counties of Bland, Buchanan, Dickenson, Russell, Tazewell, and Pulaski, parts of the Counties of Smyth, Wise, and Montgomery, and the Cities of Norton and Radford. He was a great representative for the citizens of these jurisdictions, focused on listening to their concerns and addressing them with compassion and integrity. He was a voice in Richmond for the region he had long called home and the people he had known as his friends and neighbors.

Ben was my friend and a good friend to all of us in Southwest Virginia. He and I knew each other well as we often campaigned together across our region. The wide respect and affection Ben earned is indicated by the statement of Virginia Governor Ralph Northam: "With the passing of Senator Ben Chafin, Southwest Virginia has lost a strong advocate—and we have all lost a good man." A similar sentiment was expressed by Virginia Delegate Terry Kilgore, a close friend of Ben: "Ben was a fighter, both in the Virginia Senate and in the courtroom as an attorney. I am honored to have been able to know and work with him. Ben is one of the most honorable and genuine individuals I have ever known, and his passing is a tremendous loss for our region."

Ben is survived by his wife Lora and his children Audra, Sophie, and Gus. I offer my condolences on the loss of this good man and great legislator.

WUHAN VIRUS CHRONICLER  
JAILED

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 6, 2021*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, The Wall Street Journal on Tuesday, December 29, Chun Han Wong reported that Wuhan Chronicler Zhang Zhan was convicted of "picking quarrels and provoking trouble with her posts" jailing her for four years.

"A Chinese court imposed a four-year prison term on a citizen journalist who documented how Covid-19 ravaged the city where the coronavirus was first detected . . .

"Zhang Zhan, 37 years old, was convicted of "picking quarrels and provoking trouble" after a roughly 2½-hour trial . . . where prosecutors accused her of spreading falsehoods about the pandemic through social-media posts . . .

"Her detention dovetails with Chinese leader Xi Jinping's campaign to recast the